

Speaks At Petersburg

'Can't Beat Communism With Guns,' Says King

PETERSBURG, Va. — (UPI) — Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his civil rights movement moved Friday night squarely into the foreign policy field, urging

negotiations with the Viet Cong if necessary to stop the fighting in Viet Nam.

The Nobel Peace Prize winner warned that unless the administration does something to get the hostilities to the bargaining table, he might adapt his civil rights movement to "teach-ins" and "peace rallies" in protest.

THE STATE Department contends that Viet Cong rebels in South Viet Nam are supported, directed and armed by the Communist Haoni government in the north and have no place at the conference table.

"We're not going to defeat communism with bombs and guns and gases," King said.

THE WAR in Viet Nam must be stopped, he said. "It must be a negotiated settlement.

"We must even negotiate with the Viet Cong," he said.

"I'm not going to sit by and see war being escalated without saying anything about it," King told a cheering, 2,000 throng gathered in the Virginia State College athletic stadium.

THE RALLY was sponsored by the Virginia Branch of King's Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).

King told his audience it could never accept communism.

"We must work this out in the framework of our democracy," he said.

"We can beat communism with democracy, if we make democracy work."

HE TOLD newsmen after the speech that details of using civil rights workers to seek an end to the war haven't been worked out. He added, however, "there is no reason why there can't be peace rallies like we have freedom rallies."

Turning to more familiar topics, King told the Virginia unit of the SCLC the latest problem for the civil rights movement is "tokenism."

HE SAID token integration is more difficult to fight than out-right segregation and discrimination. Negroes are getting just enough integration so that militancy is being replaced by complacency, he said.